Outstanding Service Tax against Airlines

†2939. SHRI MOTI LAL VORA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the airlines and amount of the Service Tax outstanding against each of them upto October, 2006;

(b) the reasons for non-recovery of the outstanding Service Tax from these airlines; and

(c) the steps Government have taken to recover the Service Tax?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) A Service Tax amount of Rs. 31,097/-is pending against M/s Jet Airways (India) Pvt. Ltd., Coimbatore, upto October, 2006.

(b) and (c) A stay has been granted in the matter by the Customs, Excise and Service Tax Appellate Tribunal.

BPL families under Swarn Jayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana in Rajasthan

†2940. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under Swarn Jayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana, 179 branches of the banks have contributed nothing towards BPL families in Rajasthan, whereas 140 branches of banks have contributed less than 25 per cent;

(b) whether arrangement for providing loans to BPL families will made by issuing suitable directions to banks in this regard; and

(c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The issue of providing loans to BPL families is discussed regularly with the banks at all available fora including SLBCs and they are

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

advised to implement the scheme. The banks in Rajasthan have already exceeded the targets set under the Programme during the last two years.

There is a regular flow of communication from various levels to the banks for disposing off applications under the scheme.

Income Tax Sops for Software Technology Parks

2941. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level Committee constituted by the PM has recommended that Income Tax Sops for Software Technology Parks be extended beyond March 31, 2009 and the deadline by another 10 years;

(b) if so, what are the other main recommendaitons made by the Committee;

(c) whether Government have considered all of them; and

(d) what are the steps being taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) The Principal Secretary to PM had chaired a meeting to assess the impact of the SEZ Scheme and the Software Technology Park Scheme on the software industry on 24.1.2006. At this meeting, it was decided that the Department of Information Technology would commission a study to assess the impact of the SEZ Act and the phasing out of concessions under the Software Technology Park Scheme on the software industry. The Study Report was to be considered by a Committee chaired by the Member Secretary, Planning Commission.

(b) The main recommendations made by the Chairman of the Committee are as under:-

(i) A combination of minimum built up area and generation of minimum employment should form the basis for approval of IT SEZs.

(ii) The following additional parameters relating to quality of infrastructure may also form the basis for approval:-

- 24x7x365-uninterrupted power supply at stable frequency.
- Reliable connectivity for uninterrupted & secure data transmission
- Central air-conditioning
- Premium quality construction.
- A ready to use, furnished plug and pay facility for end users.